

**REMARKS**

Pursuant to the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claims 5 and 8-17 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-4, 6-7 and 18-21 are pending in the present application. No new matter has been introduced by way of the present amendment. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein.

In the Final Office Action, claims 18-21 were allowed. Claim 5 was objected to but indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Pursuant to the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to re-present dependent claim 5 in independent form. In view of the foregoing, it is believed that claims 1-4 and 6-7 are in condition for immediate allowance.

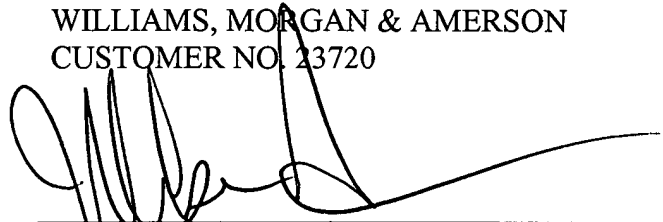
Pursuant to the present amendment, claims 8-17 have been canceled. In view of the amendments set forth herein, it is believed that all of the prior art rejections set forth in the Office Action are moot. By making the present amendments, Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the Examiner's rejections. Applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue the subject matter defined by the claims rejected by the Examiner in a later filed application should they so desire.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney

at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Mike Amerson', is written over a horizontal line.

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